

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 704

By Hardaway

A RESOLUTION encouraging the State Treasurer and the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System to identify investments in companies that are operating in Sudan; to divest any investment in a company operating in Sudan; and to prevent any future investment in a company operating in Sudan until the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, has ended.

WHEREAS, in 2004, United States Secretary of State, Colin Powell, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the Sudanese government and the Sudanese government-sponsored militia have committed genocide; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has declared the atrocities in Darfur, Sudan, to be genocide; declared that the Government of Sudan has violated the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; called upon the Administration to continue leading an international effort to stop genocide in Darfur, Sudan; and called upon the Administration to impose targeted sanctions, including the freezing of assets of the Sudanese National Congress and affiliated businesses and persons directly responsible for the atrocities in Darfur, Sudan; and

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush has stated that genocide has taken place in Darfur, Sudan, and has urged the international community to work with the United States to prevent and suppress genocide in Darfur, Sudan; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Sudan has not complied with United Nations Security Council resolutions and has not respected the cease-fire which it signed; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America's stated policy on Sudan is a commitment to ending the violence and providing assistance to the suffering people in Darfur, Sudan; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the General Assembly strongly encourages the State Treasurer and board of Trustees of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System to examine their investments to determine whether any of their funds or assets are invested in a company operating in Sudan; to divest any investment in a company identified as operating in Sudan; and to take appropriate steps to prevent any future investment in a company operating in Sudan until the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, has ended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for delivery to the State Treasurer and to the Board of Trustees of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System with this final clause omitted from such copies.